

JAN 11 2005

**FAX TRANSMISSION****DATE:** January 11, 2005**PTO IDENTIFIER:** Application Number 10/699208-Conf. #2784  
Patent Number**Inventor:** Leonard Stevens et al.**MESSAGE TO:** Supervisor Glenn Dawson, Art Unit 3731, US Patent and Trademark Office**FAX NUMBER:** (703) 872-9306**FROM:** JENKENS & GILCHRIST, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION  
J. Pat Heptig**PHONE:** (214) 855-4779**Attorney Dkt. #:** 64104-00002USC1**PAGES (Including Cover Sheet):** 3**CONTENTS:** Letter To Supervisor Glenn Dawson (2 pages)

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Dated: January 11, 2005

Signature:

  
(Marcy Overstreet)Docket No.: 64104-00002USC1  
(PATENT)**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Leonard Stevens et al.

Application No.: 10/699208

Confirmation No.: 2784

Filed: October 31, 2003

Art Unit: 3731

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CLOSING  
A SEVERED STERNUM

Examiner: M. G. Mendoza

**LETTER TO SUPERVISOR GLENN DAWSON**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Mr. Dawson:

As we have previously discussed, the United States Patent and Trademark Office has improperly changed the power of attorney for the above-identified U.S. Patent Application. We have been attempting for some time to have this mistake by the USPTO corrected. However, we have yet to receive notice from the USPTO that the power of attorney has been corrected, nor has the PTO sent us a copy of the outstanding Office Action. As the final deadline for responding to the Office Action is January 27, 2005, we respectfully request that the power of attorney be corrected to that as originally filed, that we be provided with a formal copy of the Office Action, and that all dates related to responding to the Office Action be reset. This will enable us to properly respond to the Office Action on behalf of Applicant Stevens.

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Application No.: 10/699208

Docket No.: 64104-00002USC1

In view of the upcoming deadline, we would appreciate any help that you can give us in having the USPTO immediately address this matter. If you need additional information on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (214) 855-4779.

Dated: January 11, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By

J. Patrick Heptig

Registration No.: 40,643

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